IN THE CLAIMS:

The status and content of each claim follows.

1-16. (canceled)

17.   (currently amended)   A method for a registry of business entity definitions to handle user requests to access business entity definitions, the method comprising:

receiving a request in a processor associated with said registry from a user to access a business entity definition comprising a plurality of information elements, each of said information elements having permission details associated therewith;

obtaining the identity of the user from data associated with the request with said processor[[,]];

determining with said processor, for each of said information elements, whether the user has permission to access that said information element based on the permission details associated with that said information element and said identity of the user information in the business entity definition from permission details associated with the business entity definition and the identity of the user; and

with said processor, denying the user access to information in the business entity definition if those information elements for which it is determined that the user does not have permission;

wherein the information in the business entity definition comprises a plurality of information elements each having permission details associated therewith;

2

wherein determining whether the user has permission to access information in the business entity definition from permission details associated with the business entity definition and the identity of the user comprises determining from permission details associated with each information element whether the user has permission to access that information element; and

wherein denying the user access to information in the business entity definition if it is determined that the user does not have permission comprises denying the user access to those information elements for which it is determined that the user does not have permission.

18.   (currently amended)   The method of claim [[16]] 17 wherein the request specifies a search criteria, and wherein the method further comprises:

determining with said processor what information in the business entity definition the user wishes to access using the search criteria to locate the business entity definition; and

determining with said processor whether the user has permission to access the information that the user wishes to access.

19.   (currently amended)   The method of claim [[16]] 17, wherein determining with said processor whether the user has permission to access information in the business entity definition from permission details associated with the business entity definition and the identity of the user comprises determining with said processor whether a user has permission to access an information element from an access policy and permission details associated with a different information element.

20.   (currently amended)   The method of claim [[18]] 19 wherein the information

elements are in a hierarchy and wherein determining with said processor whether the user has

permission to access information in the business entity definition from permission details

associated with the business entity definition and the identity of the user comprises determining

with said processor that a user does not have permission to access a first information element if

permission details associated with one or more second information elements directly beneath the

first information element in the hierarchy indicate that user does not have access to one or more

of the second information elements.

21.   (currently amended)   A registry of business entity definitions for handling

requests to access business entity definitions, the registry comprising:

at least one processor; and

a computer readable memory communicatively coupled to said processor having said

business entity definitions stored thereon;

wherein said processor is configured to:

means for receiving receive a request from a user to access a business entity

definition comprising a plurality of information elements, each of said information elements

having permission details associated therewith;

means for obtaining obtain the identity of the user from data associated with the

request;

means for determining determine, for each of said information elements, whether

the user has permission to access that said information element based on the permission details

associated with that said information element and said identity of the user ~~information in the~~

~~business entity definition from permission details associated with the business entity definition~~

~~and the identity of the user~~; and

~~means for denying~~ deny the user access to ~~information in the business entity~~

~~definition if~~ those information elements for which it is determined that the user does not have

permission~~;~~

~~wherein the information in the business entity definition comprises a plurality of~~

~~information elements each having permission details associated therewith;~~

~~wherein the means for determining comprises means for determining from permission~~

~~details associated with each information element whether the user has permission to access that~~

~~information element; and~~

~~wherein the means for denying comprises means for denying the user access to those~~

~~information elements for which it is determined that the user does not have permission.~~

22.   (currently amended)   The registry of claim [[20]] 21 wherein the request

specifies a search criteria, and wherein the ~~registry further comprises~~ data processing host device

is further configured to:

~~means for determining~~ determine what information in the business entity definition the

user wishes to access using the search criteria to locate the business entity definition.

23.   (currently amended)   The registry of claim [[20]] 21, wherein the ~~means for~~

~~determining whether the user has permission to access information in the business entity~~

~~definition from permission details associated with the business entity definition and the identity~~

~~of the user further comprises means for determining~~ the data processing host device is further

configured to determine whether a user has permission to access an information element from an

access policy and permission details associated with a different information element.

24.   (currently amended)   The registry of claim [[22]] 23 wherein the information

elements are in a hierarchy and the access policy specifies that a user does not have permission to

access a first information element if permission details associated with one or more second

information elements directly beneath the first information element in the hierarchy indicate that

user does not have access to one or more of the second information elements.

25.   (currently amended)   The registry of claim [[20]] 21, ~~further comprising~~ wherein

the data processing host device is further configured to:

~~means for locating~~ locate the permission details in a file system in which the permission

details are in a location in the file system which is defined according to the information element

with which they are associated.

26.   (currently amended)   The registry of claim [[20]] 21, wherein the registry is a

UDDI registry and the information in the business entity definition is a business entity

information element, the business entity information element containing one or more business

service entity information elements, each business service entity containing one or more binding

template information elements and each binding template containing one or more references each

referring to a technical model information element.

27.   (currently amended)   A computer program product for a registry of business

entity definitions to handle user requests to access business entity definitions, the computer

program product comprising:

a computer ~~usable~~ readable storage medium having computer usable program code

embodied ~~therewith~~ thereon, the computer usable program code comprising:

computer usable program code configured to receive a request from a user to

access a business entity definition comprising a plurality of information elements, each of said

information elements having permission details associated therewith;

computer usable program code configured to obtain the identity of the user from

data associated with the request;

computer usable program code configured to determine, for each of said

information elements, whether the user has permission to access that said information element

based on the permission details associated with that said information element and said identity of

the user ~~information in the business entity definition from permission details associated with the~~

~~business entity definition and the identity of the user~~; and

computer usable program code configured to deny the user access to ~~information~~

~~in the business entity definition if~~ those information elements for which it is determined that the

user does not have permission;

7

wherein the information in the business entity definition comprises a plurality of information elements each having permission details associated therewith;

wherein the computer usable program code configured to determine whether the user has permission to access information in the business entity definition from permission details associated with the business entity definition and the identity of the user comprises computer usable program code configured to determine from permission details associated with each information element whether the user has permission to access that information element; and

wherein the computer usable program code configured to deny the user access to information in the business entity definition if it is determined that the user does not have permission comprises computer usable program code configured to deny the user access to those information elements for which it is determined that the user does not have permission.

28.   (currently amended)   The computer program product of claim [[26]] 27 wherein the request specifies a search criteria, and further comprising:

computer usable program code configured to determine what information in the business entity definition the user wishes to access using the search criteria to locate the business entity definition; and

computer usable program code configured to determine whether the user has permission to access the information that the user wishes to access.

29.   (currently amended)   The computer program product of claim [[26]] 27, wherein the computer usable program code configured to determine whether the user has permission to

access information in the business entity definition from permission details associated with the

business entity definition and the identity of the user comprises computer usable program code

configured to determine whether a user has permission to access an information element from an

access policy and permission details associated with a different information element.

30.   (currently amended)   The computer program product of claim [[28]] 29 wherein

the information elements are in a hierarchy and wherein determining whether the user has

permission to access information in the business entity definition from permission details

associated with the business entity definition and the identity of the user comprises determining

that a user does not have permission to access a first information element if permission details

associated with one or more second information elements directly beneath the first information

element in the hierarchy indicate that user does not have access to one or more of the second

information elements.